

Janet Meyer, President, CEO

Representing 750 members and 1500 workers that drive back and forth to work in Barrington.

Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce

Letter of opposition along with a Board resolution from the BOD from BACC adopted J 8 2008.

Major points we would like to get across include:

With the majority of our sales tax dollars coming from auto sales and small business retailers, the VOB in 06 earned \$4.4 million dollars in sales. The threat of increased congestion in B poses a real threat to numerous Moms & Pops, who in turn spend over 45% of their revenue back in the community. They support and donate generously, often 2.5 times greater than middle and large companies. The majority of the workforce, not just come to work in B, but choose to reside and contribute to its well being. A reduction in sales for many will mean closed doors resulting in a loss of job creation and fewer people in our community to dine and shop.

Additionally, one of the biggest threats is safety of the workforce. This proposal comes at a time when the community needs to be well-prepared for disaster planning. With our public safety services located in a very strategic location, if there was a train derailment, the police and fire departments could not reach the majority of businesses' in the heart of the Village.

The Village has just barely completed an exhaustive streetscape program that disrupted business for over 2 years. All done tastefully and with respect and care to the history of the community. The 6 other villages of Barrington look to the Village as their one and only downtown area lined with historical buildings, brick pavers and lovely lamplights. We host several community events right here in the downtown area that bring thousand of parties to our core area – Holiday Beginnings, Farmers Market, Cruise Nights, Uncork Barrington, Brewfest, the 4th of July festivities, Ole fashion Sidewalk Days, etc. The downtown area is unique in its character and is the soul of B. Strip that with the addition of rail, excel noise and vibration – we might as well be Chicago not Barrington. Let's not bring Chicago to the suburbs.

Due to uniqueness of the area, consumers have many choices in their shopping. Quite easily a party residing outside the core area can simply steer their car North, South, East and West of Barrington. That is exactly what they will do by using our neighborhood streets and short cuts around town if a train happens to be present. As for the workforce, if looked at a map, there simply is not another way for our workers to get to work in B. not to mention the effect this will have on parties residing outside the area who must use our major arteries to get to their place of employment outside the 60010 zip code.

I want to close with, "What were they thinking in this acquisition. " It is a battle for Barrington – there is nothing in the history that the community has had to fight harder against.

STAFF#:

Cc: Original - Job File